

REMARKS

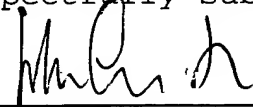
Applicant gratefully acknowledges that the examiner has allowed claims 1-7, 9-12, 14, 19, 30, 31 and 36 and has indicated that claims 8, 26, 27, 33 and 34 contain allowable subject matter. Claims 8, 15 and 16 have been amended to overcome the examiner's specific objections to those claims and it is believed that these amendments render those claims allowable.

Claim 20 stands rejected under 35 USC 102 over Roberts '495. Claim 20 has been amended and it is believed that the invention as defined in claim 20 is patentable over the disclosure of Roberts.

Claim 20 now recites positively that the key includes both a shank and a bit. In the case of the key blank shown in FIG. 2a, the shank is of uniform profile. When the combination surfaces 2c have been cut in a length segment of the shank, the key then has both a shank of uniform profile and a bit of non-uniform profile. Claim 20 defines the shank by reference to a bevel surface that is inclined at an acute angle to a plane containing the common longitudinal axis of the shank and bit and a central axis of the rectangular cross-sectional form of the shank, and defines the bit by reference to first and second combination surfaces having the first and second combination values respectively, wherein the first combination surface differs from the second combination surface with respect to the combination of the angle of the cut and the length of the cut in the bevel surface. Roberts discloses a key including a shank 13 and a bit formed with combination surfaces defined by bitting planes 14 and 16. The bitting planes 14, 16 are formed at angular positions 21-26 and 31-36. The shank portion that is between the bow 12 and the bit is uniform in profile and, except for profile grooves 18 and 19, is defined by two parallel planes (shown vertical in FIG. 2) and upper and lower cylindrical surfaces. The shank does not have a bevel surface as defined in claim 20.

Applicant therefore submits that claim 20 is patentable and it follows that the dependent claims also are patentable.

Respectfully submitted,



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